

1 September 1985

MGF 009-85

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Gulf Bureau--August 1985

I. GENERAL

STAT
STAT
This summer's rotation season brought a 60% turnover in staff positions at Gulf Bureau, most of it in August. By the end of the month, a new editor, a new engineer, and a new bureau chief were all in place and settling into their new duties. Two senior editors, [] carried over to provide a very useful degree of continuity, with [] moving up earlier this summer to the position of deputy chief.

STAT
The IBM-PC training program got under way at the end of the month with the arrival of []. A total of nine bureau personnel will be taking part in various phases of the training program, which is scheduled to run until 12 September.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Gulf Bureau provided a major backstop effort for BBC on 7 August during their industrial action, assuming coverage of Tehran Domestic Service in Persian, and Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic and Kuwait KUNA in Arabic throughout Gulf's operating hours. Special staffing was arranged to handle the added coverage. Closure was extended by one hour to enable late night Tehran and Riyadh casts to be covered.

2. In addition to assuming some of the BBC's coverage, 7 August also proved to be a busy day due to the opening of the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Casablanca, Morocco. Manama and Riyadh Television Services linked up to carry live the opening session of the summit. FYI's were sent and VSL prepared. On 9 August Riyadh Television Service carried a recording of the closing session, with FYI's and VSL again being sent.

- 2 -

3. On 15 August Iraq claimed that it launched an air raid on Iran's Khark Island and "destroyed" it. While Iran remained "officially" silent on the claims, various Gulf sources confirmed that an attack had indeed taken place and several oil installations were damaged. However, Tehran International Service in Arabic, monitored by the bureau, did carry a report citing an Iranian newspaper, the Tehran AL-'ARABI, which referred to the "propaganda" of an attack on Khark but did not actually deny such an attack took place. Gulf media viewed the attack as the most significant event in the 5-year war between Iran and Iraq. On 25 August, Iraq again claimed that it had struck Khark Island; this time the claim met with swift denial by Iran's War Publicity Headquarters in a statement monitored from Tehran Domestic Persian on the morning of 26 August. On 30 August, Iraq claimed that its planes had again attacked Khark in order to disrupt repair and salvage work. The Tehran AL-'ARABI on 31 August referred to the falsehood of the Iraqi claim, but did not deny an attack had taken place.

4. Iran held its presidential election on 17 August with three candidates vying for the post. Various reports from Tehran radio updating the election results were filed. Incumbent President Khamene'i was reelected with an overwhelming majority.

5. The annual pilgrimage to Mecca began this month with over 850,000 pilgrims arriving in Saudi Arabia from abroad. Saudi-Iranian relations have been strained over the number of Iranian pilgrims arriving to perform the Hajj, as well as by Iran's call to politicize the pilgrimage. On 22 August a "massive" demonstration was held in Mecca following the reading of a message from Ayatollah Khomeyni addressed to the Muslim pilgrims. Iranian media claimed that several pilgrims were arrested by Saudi police, but in general there were no serious problems.

6. Gulf Bureau assumed coverage of Moscow in Persian to Iran from 3-24 August for Nicosia during their Persian monitor's annual leave. Also, at PMU's request, Gulf assumed coverage of two Arabic newspapers -- Jeddah 'UKAZ and Riyadh AL-RIYAD-- from 8-22 August during one of their monitor's annual leave.

7. Tehran Television Service in Persian has been received with unusual regularity during the month of August. Twelve VSL's were filed during the month (more than the total for the preceding 6 months), including a Khomeyni appearance on 4 August, and again on 27 August. Baghdad Television Service in Persian was received on 26 August with fair/unmonitorable reception. This was the first time since 5 June that reception of Baghdad was good enough to prepare a VSL.

- 3 -

B. Lateral Services

1. The American Embassy in Doha, Qatar requested that they be added as a consumer for items on Gulf war developments, regional terrorism, Iranian broadcasts aimed at Iranians resident in the Gulf, and the Doha Domestic Service in Arabic commentary that follows the 1330 GMT newscast. The request was relayed to Liaison and Requirements Branch for inclusion of the consumer in appropriate LSL entries.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. The following staff PCS arrivals and departures took place during the month:

a. Arrivals: Junior editor [redacted] 3 August; engineer [redacted] and wife, 8 August; bureau chief [redacted] and family, 18 August.

b. Departures: Electronic technician [redacted] 19 August; acting bureau chief [redacted] 27 August.

2. No objection certificates were received for Arabic monitor trainee [redacted] on 1 September. [redacted] is being processed through Jordan Bureau to fill an existing vacancy in Gulf's Arabic section.

IV. VISITS

To the Bureau

Newly arrived DCM Larry Pope, on 24 August, for a tour of the facility, introduction to personnel, and briefing on operations.

[redacted]
Chief, Gulf Bureau

ATT: Monthly Production Report

GULF BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH	:	273,810
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING	:	116,590
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH	:	829

	BROAD CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	15,585	13,740	191.5
(MINUTES OR ISSUES PER WEEK)			

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
IN ARABIC	-0-
KABUL IN ENGLISH TO	
SOUTH ASIA	-0-

BAHRAIN

MANAMA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN		
ARABIC	-0-	
MANAMA TELEVISION SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	-0-	
MANAMA WAKH IN		
ARABIC		15,320
MANAMA WAKH IN		
ENGLISH		9,630
MANAMA AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ		
IN ARABIC		-0-
MANAMA AL-ADWA' IN		
ARABIC		-0-
MANAMA AL-MAWAQIF		
IN ARABIC		-0-
MANAMA SADA AL-USBU'		
IN ARABIC		-0-
MANAMA GULF DAILY NEWS		
IN ENGLISH		2,710
MANAMA GULF MIRROR IN		
ENGLISH		770

CLANDESTINE

(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF ISLAMIC REVOLUTION OF AFGHANISTAN IN DARI	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF ISLAMIC REVOLUTION OF AFGHANISTAN IN PASHTO	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF AL-AHVAZ REVOLUTION IN ARABIC	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN IN BAH DINANI KURDISH	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN IN SURANI KURDISH	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI REVOLUTION IN SURANI KURDISH	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) FREE VOICE OF IRAN IN PERSIAN	5,010
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ IN PERSIAN	-0-
(CLANDESTINE) RADIO NEJAT-E IRAN IN PERSIAN	8,940
(CLANDESTINE) RADIO IRAN IN PERSIAN	5,980

IRAN

TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ARABIC	30,690
TEHRAN TELEVISION SERVICE IN ARABIC	-0-
TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN RUSSIAN	-0-
TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN TURKISH	4,010
MASHHAD INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN DARI	160
TABRIZ INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN AZERI	1,240
TEHRAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN PERSIAN	29,530
TEHRAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN SURANI KURDISH	-0-
TEHRAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN BAH DINANI KURDISH	-0-
TEHRAN TELEVISION SERVICE IN PERSIAN	1,980
TEHRAN TELEVISION SERVICE IN ENGLISH	-0-
AHVAZ DOMESTIC SERVICE IN PERSIAN	3,890
BANDAR 'ABBAS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN PERSIAN	-0-

BUSHEHR DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	860		
ESFAHAN DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	-0-		
MASHHAD DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	-0-		
SHIRAZ DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	-0-		
TABRIZ DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN ARMENIAN	110		
TABRIZ DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN AZERI	-0-		
ZAHEDAN DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	-0-		
TEHRAN IRNA IN			
ARABIC		560	
TEHRAN AL-SHAHID			
IN ARABIC			210
TEHRAN KEYHAN AL-'ARABI			
IN ARABIC			-0-
TEHRAN KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL			
IN ENGLISH			-0-
TEHRAN TEHRAN TIMES IN			
ENGLISH			-0-
TEHRAN ETTELA'AT IN			
PERSIAN			-0-
TEHRAN JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI			
IN PERSIAN			-0-
TEHRAN KEYHAN IN			
PERSIAN			-0-
TEHRAN KEYHAN HAVA'I			
IN PERSIAN			-0-
IRAQ			

BAGHDAD TELEVISION SERVICE			
IN PERSIAN	-0-		
BAGHDAD DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	370		
BAGHDAD DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN SURANI KURDISH	-0-		
BAGHDAD TELEVISION SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	430		
KUWAIT			

KUWAIT DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	1,200		
KUWAIT TELEVISION SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	-0-		
KUWAIT KUNA IN			
ARABIC		380	
KUWAIT AL-ANBA'			
IN ARABIC			3,730

KUWAIT AL-HADAF IN		
ARABIC		-0-
KUWAIT AL-QABAS		
IN ARABIC		3,420
KUWAIT AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM		
IN ARABIC		6,220
KUWAIT AL-SIYASAH IN		
ARABIC		8,690
KUWAIT AL-WATAN		
IN ARABIC		2,570
KUWAIT ARAB TIMES IN		
ENGLISH		4,290
OMAN		

MUSCAT DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	3,020	
SALALAH DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	470	
MUSCAT 'UMAN IN		
ARABIC		
MUSCAT 'UMMAN AL-USBU'I		-0-
IN ARABIC		-0-
MUSCAT QNA IN		
ARABIC		-0-
PAKISTAN		

ISLAMABAD THE MUSLIM		
IN ENGLISH		410
KARACHI DAWN		
IN ENGLISH		3,360
KARACHI JASARAT IN		
URDU		650
KARACHI MASHRIQ IN		
URDU		240
KARACHI NAWA-E WAQT		
IN URDU		2,530
LAHORE JANG IN		
URDU		950
RAWALPINDI HAIDAR IN		
URDU		1,000
RAWALPINDI PAKISTAN TIMES		
IN ENGLISH		4,060
QATAR		

DOHA DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	1,070	
DOHA TELEVISION SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	-0-	
DOHA QNA IN		
ARABIC		7,170

SAUDI ARABIA

JEDDAH DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	2,110	
RIYADH DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	7,230	
RIYADH TELEVISION SERVICE		
IN ARABIC	2,230	
RIYADH TELEVISION SERVICE		
IN ENGLISH	-0-	
RIYADH SPA IN		
ARABIC		10,820
AL-DAMMAM AL-YAWM IN		
ARABIC		1,130
JEDDAH AL-MADINAH IN		
ARABIC		690
RIYADH AL-RIYAD IN		
ARABIC		1,660

SUDAN

OMDURMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE**		
IN ARABIC	-0-	
KHARTOUM SUNA IN		
ARABIC		-0-

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

MOSCOW IN PERSIAN TO		
IRAN	2,220	
BAKU INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN PERSIAN	-0-	
BAKU INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN AZERI	1,030	
DUSHANBE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN PERSIAN	-0-	
TASHKENT INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN PERSIAN	-0-	
TASHKENT INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN UIGHUR	-0-	
TASHKENT INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN UZBEK	1,100	
YEREVAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE		
IN ARMENIAN	-0-	
ALMA-ATA DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN RUSSIAN	-0-	
ASHKHABAD DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN RUSSIAN	1,610	
BAKU DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN AZERI	5,480	
BAKU DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN RUSSIAN	-0-	
DUSHANBE DOMESTIC SERVICE		
IN RUSSIAN	170	

TASHKENT DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN RUSSIAN	-0-		
TASHKENT DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN UZBEK	6,350		
YEREVAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARMENIAN	-0-		
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES			

ABU DHABI DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	2,030		
DUBAYY DOMESTIC SERVICE			
IN ARABIC	-0-		
ABU DHABI WAM			
IN ARABIC		4,100	
ABU DHABI AL-ITTIHAD			
IN ARABIC			1,810
ABU DHABI AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I			
IN ARABIC			850
AL-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ			
IN ARABIC			3,790
DUBAYY AL-BAYAN			
IN ARABIC			3,520
DUBAYY KHALEEJ TIMES			
IN ENGLISH			6,240
UNITED KINGDOM			

LONDON AL-MAJALIS			
IN ARABIC			-0-
LONDON ASGHAR AQA			
IN PERSIAN			-0-
LONDON KEYHAN IN			
PERSIAN			3,350
LONDON VOICE OF IRAN			
IN ENGLISH			-0-
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC			
OF YEMEN (PDY)			

ADEN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	11,230		
ADEN VOICE OF PALESTINE			
IN ARABIC	2,360		
ADEN ANA IN			
ARABIC		-0-	
ADEN ANA IN			
ENGLISH		-0-	

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC (YAR)

SANAA DOMESTIC SERVICE

8,330

IN ARABIC

SANAA VOICE OF PALESTINE

4,540

IN ARABIC

SANAA AL-THAWRAH

IN ARABIC

-0-